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Books treating of genealogy owe their existence, as a rule, to natural personal interest or enthusiasm. The present work, however, had its origin in another feature which struck the fancy of the author with singular force. This was the close and novel union between the Pound and Kester families which was the real incentive for the compilation of this volume. The ancestors of John Pound settled in New Jersey close to Pennsylvania, the ancestors of William Kester settled in Pennsylvania close to New Jersey; three children of John Pound married three children of William Kester, and in her ripe old age the widow of John Pound married the octogenarian, William Kester.

Out of this intimate union between these two families arose a group of descendants, consisting of thirty-two children (all brothers and sisters or double cousins) and their children and descendants—a group not only closely united by ties of kinship, but who can point to two common ancestors of kindred fortune and circumstances; and it was at first the intention of the author to have this volume embrace only the records of the above named group of descendants, but on reflection he decided to have the work include all the children and descendants of the two common ancestors, John Pound and William Kester. Though four of John Pound's children and their descendants are not related to two of William Kester's children and their descendants, yet they are all related to the three children of John Pound, who married the three children of William Kester, or their children or descendants.

It is noteworthy to remark that members of the Pound and Kester families have been pioneer settlers from the date of their immigration to America. The town of Piscataway, New Jersey, was opened for settlement in 1676, and John Pound was living there prior to 1686; the Village of Germantown, Pennsylvania, was founded in 1685, and Paul Kuester and his three sons located there about that date; and in the vicinity of these two places these two families and their descendants continued to reside until about the time of the American Revolution, when John Pound and William Kester, two of the descendants, and their families, went with the advance tide of migration towards the West—first to Virginia and Maryland, and then in 1786 and 1790 to Kentucky, from where their children and descendants have spread over the states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and the Great West, there now being representatives of the two families in nearly all the States of the Union.

That part of the Pound and Kester families included in this volume might well be called the "Kentucky Branch" of the two families. As shown by the title page, this work contains "An Account of the Ancestry of John Pound (born in 1735) and William Kester (born in 1733) and a genealogical record of all of their descendants," from which it readily appears that the work does not purport to include all of the Pound family or all of the Kester family found in America. In fact, persons of these names in this country are quite numerous, though the names cannot be said to be what are generally known as common names. Some of the Pound family now residing here have come direct from England, although the greater portion of them are descendants of the John Pound who settled in Piscataway, New Jersey, prior to 1686. But of the Kester family, all are believed to have descended from

Johannes Kuester or Koster, who came to Germantown, Pennsylvania, with his parents about the year 1685. And it may be said without fear of contradiction, that all persons, whose Pound and Kester ancestors came from Kentucky, can say they are descended from the "Kentucky Branch" of the Pound and Kester families, and are descendants of either John Pound (born in 1735) or William Kester (born in 1733) and will undoubtedly find their names and family records in this volume.

It is not claimed that this work is entirely complete. Works of this character are never absolutely complete. If it were possible to collect all records of different families and bring them down to date, some births or marriages or deaths, no doubt, would occur before the morrow and before the work could be published and distributed. For nearly six years the author has had this volume in course of preparation, and all the matter and records contained herein have been compiled during that time; and always with a constant purpose in view to have them as accurate and entire as possible. In this respect he believes that he has succeeded, in no small measure, and that this work, as a whole, is more complete than the usual family history.

The author is greatly indebted to a large number of persons for their assistance in the preparation of this work. To A. M. Shotwell, compiler of "Our Colonial Ancestors," to Chalkley J. Hambleton, author of "The Hambleton Family," to Professor J. W. Moore, who compiled "The Kingwood Records" in "The Jerseyman," to the Honorable Samuel W. Pennepacker, Governor of Pennsylvania and author of several historical works on early Pennsylvania settlements, to Mrs. Cynthia Dora (Kester) Webster, of West Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, to William C. Kester, of Normandy, Kentucky, to Marvin B. Crist, of Indianapolis, Indiana, and to many of the author's relatives and kinsmen; and, last but not least, to

the thousands of persons whose family records are given herein, the author desires to express his appreciation of their kindly help, without which the publication of this volume would have been well-nigh impossible.

To a public whose interest in genealogical research is constantly increasing, to the numerous members of the families whose records are herewith presented, and to their children and grandchildren, and especially to the generations yet unborn, this work is respectfully dedicated.

JOHN E. HUNT.

Chicago, Illinois, February 1, 1904.

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PART I.
THE POUND ANCESTRY
AND
JOHN POUND AND FAMILY

THE POUND ANCESTRY.

The name of *Pound* is of English origin, and the names of John and Thomas Pound were common in England, as shown on the records during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.

I. *John Pound* was among the early settlers of Piscataway, Middlesex County, New Jersey, and died there February 21, 1690. It is not known from where he came or when he arrived at Piscataway, but the town records show that he was residing there as early as September 17, 1686, as the minutes of a town meeting held on that date contain this item: "Hopewell Hull and George Drake chosen to make ye bridge att John Pounds." His first wife's name was Esther and the second Winnifred, who survived him and married a man by the name of Rorie. His daughter, Mary, was born December 25, 1682; his son, William, died December 4, 1694; his daughter, Vinefruct, was married at Piscataway, October 15, 1691, to Robert Rosly; and the record of his son, John, is as given below.

II. *John Pound*, a son of *John* and Winnifred above named, lived in Piscataway, Middlesex County, N. J., until his death, in 1752. He came into possession of a tract of land, as only

son and heir of his mother (the widow of John Pound, his father), which he conveyed by deed March 24, 1736, to his son, Thomas Pound. No wife was named in this deed, and he was probably a widower at that time, but it is believed his wife's name was Esther. His will, dated May 2, 1752, and proved August 26, 1752, is recorded in the office of the Secretary of State at Trenton, N. J., in Book F of Wills, page 64. By this will, after declaring himself possessed of no real estate, he gives to his son, Thomas, forty shillings, to his son, John, forty shillings, to Rachael Leforge, wife of Joseph Leforge (not stating whether she is related or not), certain personal property, and to his son, Elijah, one-third, and to his son, Joseph, two-thirds of all his remaining estate, and he appoints Reune Runyon and David Fitz Randolph his executors. Of the sons named in this will it is known that Thomas was born July 18, 1708, Elijah, July 8, 1712 (see Appendix P.), and Joseph, June 25, 1715; and in a list of freeholders residing in Piscataway, N. J., "as returned by John Deare, sheriff, in 1750, or a little earlier," are found the names of John Pound, Thomas Pound, Elijah Pound and John Pound, Jr., evidently the John Pound herein named, and three of his sons mentioned in this will.

III. *Thomas Pound*, a son of *John* and *Esther* above named, was born at Piscataway, Middlesex County, N. J., July 18, 1708, and died there in the summer of 1758. By his will, dated May 1, 1758, proved August 11, 1758, and recorded in the office of the Secretary of State at Trenton, N. J., September 22, 1758, in Book F of Wills, page 544, he devises to his son, John (after the death of his wife), the plantation where he then resided, subject to legacies to his daughters, Mary, Esther and Johannah, of fifty pounds each, and to his son, Isaac, certain real estate, and to his wife, Audrey, all real estate as long as she remains his widow, and also the remainder of personal property, and he appoints as executors his brother, Elijah Pound, and his friend, David Corriel.

JOHN POUND AND FAMILY.

John Pound, a son of *Thomas Pound* and *Audrey*, his wife, was born at Piscataway, Middlesex County, N. J., about 1735. He was married about 1759 to *Rhoda Cox*, by whom he had one son, and was married again about 1764 to *Sarah Martin*, by whom he had six children, two sons and four daughters. In 1758 his father died, leaving him the home plantation (subject to a life estate in the mother and legacies to the sisters, as mentioned in the will), and on July 12, 1770, John and his wife, *Sarah*, conveyed this plantation by a deed to *Andrew Smalley*, wherein it is recited that the grantor, *John Pound*, received the land by will from his father, *Thomas Pound*, who in turn received the land by deed, dated March 24, 1736-37, from the grandfather, *John Pound*, who came by it as sole son and heir of his mother, *Winnifred*, wife of the great-grandfather, *John Pound*, the original Pound and early settler in Piscataway.

It is not known whether *John Pound* moved from Piscataway immediately after making this conveyance in 1770. Possibly he may have located for a while in the adjoining county of Somerset, as others of the Pound family are known to have been living there about that time, and the records show that his son, *Hezekiah*, served from that county in the Revolution during the years 1776 and 1777. He later migrated to Maryland, at what date is not known, but probably about the time of the Revolution, as some of his younger children are said to have been born in that State. Nor is it definitely known in what part of Maryland he resided, though subsequent to the Revolution part of his family is known to have been living near Cumberland, as his son, *Hezekiah*, took a grant of land there as a settler in 1788, and his son, *Thomas*, and daughter, *Eunice*, moved from that locality to Kentucky in 1786. The date of his death is unknown, but he probably died prior to 1800—perhaps as early as 1790. His second wife, *Sarah*, survived him and married a man named *Stiglar*, and later, about the year 1813,

married William Kester, the common ancestor of the Kester family, found in this volume.

John Pound's seven children, one by his first wife and six by the second, are as follows:

1. *Hezekiah Pound*, born July 3, 1761, died April 23, 1839, married Esther Morris. For his record see Part II.

2. *Eunice Pound*, born about 1765, died about 1815, married William Kester. For her record see Part III.

3. *Thomas Pound*, born July 28, 1767, died February 2, 1848, married Sarah Kester. For his record see Part IV.

4. *Joseph Pound*, born November 23, 1770, died April 2, 1850, married Elizabeth Stark. For his record see Part V.

5. *Sarah Pound*, born October 4, 1773, died October 14, 1849, married John Kester. For her record see Part VI.

6. *Rebecca Pound*, born about 1776, died about 1820, married James Stark. For her record see Part VII.

7. *Elizabeth Pound*, born September 8, 1780, died January 15, 1856, married Moses Drake. For her record see Part VIII.